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**Art Unit 2153**

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/076,181; Filed: February 12, 2002  
For: **System and Method for Providing Distributed Access Control to Secured Items**  
Inventors: Hildebrand *et al.*  
Our Ref: 2222.5390002

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action is the following document:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.

The above-listed documents is filed electronically through EFS-Web.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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JDE/srb  
Enclosure